MAY 2 3 2005

Case 7042R

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In The Application Of:

F.J. Rourke et al.

Serial No.

09/529,575

Group Art Unit

3761

Confirmation No.

9622

Filed

April 14, 2000

Examiner

C.L. Anderson

For:

PROTEASE INHIBITORS IN ABSORBENT ARTICLES

AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR §1.114

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This amendment is submitted in support of the accompanying Request for Continued Examination of the above-identified application in which an Office Action was mailed on December 23, 2004. A Notice of Appeal was submitted on March 23, 2005 and with this RCE that appeal is hereby withdrawn. Please consider the following remarks.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.